



Global Community Fellowship (ST)

Position Description at Peacemaker Project

Overview

The Global Community Fellowship (Short-Term) plays a critical role in supporting capacity-building, education, and training initiatives of institutions designed to address specific needs and challenges in the local community. By working directly with communities, Fellows gain hands-on experience with organizations in Asia using creative and innovative methods to address critical social challenges while applying their knowledge and skills to further grassroots social change.

Post Summary

Peacemaker Project is seeking a motivated, creative facilitator to support several international education and youth-development programs in 2026. This role involves designing and leading pre-departure training for Japanese university students participating in the October 2026 US Education NPO Delegation Program. In this program, facilitators help students build the skills needed for cross-cultural engagement, teamwork, communication, and leadership.

In addition to the US program, facilitators may contribute ideas and assist with program development for education initiatives in Malaysia and Thailand. These activities may include brainstorming program themes, supporting curriculum creation, and helping identify or communicate with local partner organizations.

The facilitator will also have the opportunity to collaborate on **On Your Mark**, a commissioned global leadership camp for high school students hosted in Fukuoka between June and August. Working alongside Japanese university students, the facilitator will help co-create the camp curriculum, practice facilitation skills, and ultimately deliver a 6-night, 7-day global program for 100 high school participants and internationally recruited university students. As this camp is a commissioned project, pre-program meetings with participating students and consultations with the Small and Medium Enterprise Leaders Association (the organizing body) is required.

Additionally, the facilitator may volunteer with the **Fukuoka-US Oakland Friendship Association (FOFA)**, which will send Fukuoka high school students to Oakland in July



2026. Responsibilities include supporting the June pre-departure training, assisting with English-language dialogue events, and helping with facilitation during program activities. Additional weekly development meetings, held online from March to July, may be required of the fellow.

These opportunities are ideal for applicants excited about youth leadership development, cross-cultural exchange, and program facilitation. The role involves significant collaboration, creativity, and initiative, and provides hands-on experience in international education program design and delivery.

About the Partner

The **Peacemaker Project** is a Japanese community-based organization dedicated to global citizenship and diversity education. Its programs are built around the belief that “everyone is different, and that’s what makes us strong,” helping students and young adults develop empathy, cross-cultural understanding, and the ability to collaborate across differences. The organization designs and facilitates a wide range of international education programs that connect youth in Japan with communities and partner institutions around the world. These include volunteer placements with education-focused nonprofits in California, alternative education and cultural exchange programs with mountain-tribe schools in Thailand, and immersive learning experiences at Steiner-inspired schools in Malaysia. In addition to its overseas programs, the Peacemaker Project offers DE&I facilitation and consulting services, as well as internship opportunities (both remote and in-person) for students interested in peace education, youth leadership, and cross-cultural engagement. Through these initiatives, the Peacemaker Project works to create environments where diversity is embraced as a strength and young people are empowered to build more inclusive, peaceful communities.

The Peacemaker Project fellowship will take place during **Summer 2026**, running for **8 weeks** between **mid-June and mid to late August**. The specific schedule will be finalized in consultation with the Fellow and program staff, but applicants should expect to assist in developing regular programming throughout June, July, and August.

The Fellow will be required to serve as a counselor for the **Fukuoka Future Creation Camp (On Your Mark)**. The 2026 camp dates have not yet been announced, but the camp is typically held around **August 10–16 or August 17–23**; the final schedule will be confirmed closer to summer. Counselors must participate fully and stay overnight



for all days of the camp. Final counselor roles and responsibilities will be determined through an interview and placement process conducted by the camp organizers.

Throughout the fellowship, weekends are generally treated as working days, as many programs and workshops take place during that time. Communication with staff and participants can be conducted in English.

About the Location

This is an in-person position and Fellows will be based in Fukuoka City. Fukuoka is the fifth largest city in Japan, located on the northern coast of Kyushu Island. The city is known for ancient temples and shrines including Daizaifu Tenmangu and also famous for its tasty food such as ramen and seafood. Fukuoka has a geographical advantage being close to Asian cities in mainland China and South Korea. The city's economic center has excellent access from the international airport, only 10 minutes by subway. Fukuoka has been actively supporting startups since 2012. In 2020, it was selected by the Japanese government as a "global base city" to support startup development. The city also has a sister city relationship with Oakland, California since 1962. The Fukuoka Future Creation Camp (On Your Mark), held towards the end of August, will take place in either Onojo City or Sasaguri Town. Accommodation during the camp will be provided by the Fukuoka Federation of Business Executives, the official organizer of the camp, for whom the Peacemaker Project is contracted to develop the program.

VIA will assist Fellows in arranging suitable accommodation within Fukuoka City.

Position Responsibilities

- Support the design and facilitation of pre-departure training for Japanese university students participating in the US Education NPO Delegation Program in May and October 2026.
- Contribute to brainstorming, curriculum development, and partner research for education programs in Malaysia and Thailand.
- Collaborate with Japanese university students and program staff to co-develop activities for the Fukuoka Future Creation Camp (On Your Mark) for Japanese high school students, and (if selected) serve as a counselor during the full overnight camp period.



- Provide facilitation support for English-language dialogue events and pre-departure training for the **Fukuoka-US Oakland Friendship Association (FOFA)** high school delegation.
- Assist with cross-cultural communication, project coordination, and program delivery across multiple youth-focused initiatives.
- Working days are primarily on **Saturdays and Sundays**, as most programs take place on weekends. There will also be **occasional meetings and working sessions on weekdays (Monday–Friday)**. Days off will vary depending on program needs, but generally can be taken **outside of required meetings and working sessions**. Time off can be arranged in consultation with Peacemaker Project staff when no active programming is taking place.
- The role may require attending online monthly meetings starting in March.

Eligibility Requirements

- **Academic:** Must be currently enrolled in an **undergraduate degree program** at an accredited university. Please note that this fellowship is only eligible for current undergraduate students, as they will be expected to share their undergraduate studies experience as part of their fellowship duties.
- **Citizenship:** Must be a **US citizen, permanent resident, or have significant experience in the US** (e.g., graduated from a U.S. university, worked in the US for several years). Non-US citizens will be considered on a case-by-case basis due to visa and host-country requirements.
- **Language Skills:** Must be able to **communicate in English**. Japanese language proficiency is not required but is welcomed.
- **Work Experience:** Must be willing and able to participate fully in all mandatory activities, including online preparatory assignments, on-site orientation, and the entire on-site program period.
- Must **respect diversity** and be passionate about transforming differences into strengths through education, cross-cultural learning, and collaborative programs.
- As a **counselor for the Fukuoka Future Creation Camp**, note that counselors are selected through an additional interview process with the camp partner organization.
- Up to **two to five** Fellows will be selected for this role, with all Fellows collaborating closely as a team.



Fellows should note that during the fellowship, weekends are generally considered working days, as programs frequently include weekend activities. In addition, Fellows will have **weekly and daily commitments**, including:

- **Team Preparation Meetings every Sunday**
- **Daily meetings with the Director and leadership on Mondays and Fridays**
- **Weeknight working sessions with the local university student development team**

These recurring meetings and working sessions are required components of the fellowship schedule.

Preferred Qualifications

- Experience in cross-cultural education or working in multicultural environments
- Leadership experience in academic, professional, or community settings
- Experience facilitating DE&I (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) discussions or activities
- Prior experience working with youth or supporting youth-focused programs
- Strong teamwork skills and experience collaborating effectively in group settings

Professional Development

- **Facilitation & Dialogue Design** – Lead and co-create pre-departure trainings, cultural-exchange workshops, and dialogue events that center on diversity, empathy, and global citizenship, as grounded in the Peacemaker Project's mission to transform "difference into richness."
- **Program Development & Project Management** – Support the design and implementation of international programs in Japan, the US, Thailand, and Malaysia; develop curricula, conduct needs assessments, and coordinate with local partners to bring programs from concept to reality.
- **Cross-Cultural Competence** – Build your understanding of diverse cultures and perspectives through close engagement with Peacemaker Project's activities, such as student exchanges, community-based learning, and DE&I workshops.
- **Youth Leadership & Mentorship** – Mentor Japanese university students and high school participants in leadership, social-emotional learning, and peer learning, helping them cultivate global citizenship.



- **Sustainability & Inclusive Impact** — Learn to conceptualize and sustain social-impact projects that promote diversity, equity, and inclusion in international settings, aligning with Peacemaker Project's emphasis on turning "difference" into a positive force.
- **Adaptability & Resilience** — Navigate dynamic, weekend-heavy summer schedules; respond to evolving logistical and cultural challenges; and maintain high-quality program delivery in cross-border contexts.

Estimated Cost - \$6500 USD~

- **International Travel** — \$1800: Economy Flight \$1500~ + Travel/Health Insurance \$300~
- **Accommodation** — \$2500: \$40-50 USD per day in shared apartment or student housing
- **Living Costs** — \$1600:
 - Food - \$10-20 Daily
 - Transportation - \$5-10 Daily
 - Miscellaneous (supplies, personal expenses, materials) - \$200
- **Fellowship Management Fee** — \$500: Fee for fellowship management and logistics
- **Tourist Visa** — \$0-\$100: US Citizens can apply for VISA exempt on arrival, up to 3 months stay